

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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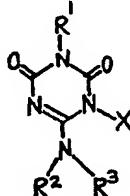


(54) SUBSTITUTED TRIAZINEDIONES, THEIR PREPARATION AND USE AS HERBICIDES

(71) We, IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED, Imperial Chemical House, Millbank, London SW1P 3JF, a British Company, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to heterocyclic compounds and chemical compositions containing them, and to their use as pesticides, more particularly as herbicides and fungicides.

According to the present invention, there are provided triazinedione compounds of the formula:



and salts thereof, wherein R¹ is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical and either (a) R² is a carboxylic acyl radical and R³ is a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical, or (b) R² is a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical, and R³, together with the group X, forms a divalent radical Z linking the nitrogen atom to which R is attached to the nitrogen atom in the triazine ring, so as to form a second fused 5 or 6 membered heterocyclic ring; and X is a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical, or together with R³ forms the divalent group Z.

By carboxylic acyl radical we mean an acyl radical derived from a carboxylic acid of the formula R⁴.CO₂H wherein R⁴ represents a carboxy group, or an alkoxy-carbonyl group, an aliphatic radical, a phenyl or substituted phenyl radical, or an alkoxy radical. Preferred acyl radicals include alkanoyl radicals of 2 to 8 carbon atoms, for example acetyl, propionyl, and butyryl radicals, and alkoxycarbonyl radicals of 2 to 8 carbon atoms, for example methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl, and propoxycarbonyl.

Preferred compounds according to the invention include those in which R¹ is an aliphatic radical of 1 to 20 carbon atoms. More preferably, R¹ is an alkyl radical of from 1 to 8 carbon atoms. Particularly preferred compounds include those in which that carbon atom of R¹ which is attached to the nitrogen atom is a secondary or tertiary carbon atom. A secondary carbon atom is one in which two of the valency links of the carbon atom are attached to other carbon atoms and a tertiary carbon atom is one in which three of the valency links of the carbon atom are attached to other carbon atoms. Examples of compounds containing a secondary carbon atom include those in which R¹ is an isopropyl or cyclohexyl radical. Examples of compounds in which R¹ contains a tertiary carbon atom include those in which R¹ is a tertiary butyl radical.

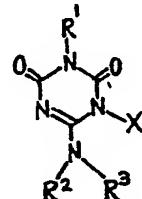
When R³ is an aliphatic radical, it may be, for example, an alkyl radical, for example an alkyl radical of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

When X is an aliphatic radical, it may be for example an alkyl radical of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms. When X is a hydrogen atom, the hydrogen is acidic, and the compounds will form salts with bases. Examples of such salts include alkali metal salts, for example lithium, sodium and potassium salts, alkaline earth metal salts, for example calcium and magnesium salts, ammonium salts, and salts formed from primary, secondary, or tertiary amines, for example primary, secondary and tertiary aliphatic amines in which the one, two or three aliphatic radicals each contain from one to six carbon atoms. Salts of compounds wherein X represents a hydrogen atom may in general be conveniently prepared simply by mixing the triazinedione compound with the stoichiometric proportions of an alkali metal hydroxide, alkaline earth metal hydroxide, ammonia, or amine, in a solvent or diluent. Water is generally the most convenient solvent or diluent for this purpose.

The divalent group Z in the compounds of the invention defined by the foregoing formula may have its valency links on two adjacent linked atoms, or on two atoms linked through a third atom, so that when linked to the triazine ring in the manner indicated above, it forms a second heterocyclic ring containing five or six ring atoms. The ring atoms of the group Z consists of a —(CH₂)₂— or —(CH₂)₃— group, or may bear various substituents. Thus, for example, the group Z may be an oxanyl group, —CO.CO—; or a 1,2-dihydroxyethylene group —CH(OH)—CH(OH)— or a group of formula —CH₂NR³CH₂— where R³ is a hydrocarbyl group of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, or hydrogen.

Examples of compounds of the invention are listed in Tables I and 2 below:

TABLE I

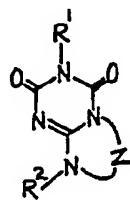


Compound No.	R ¹	R ³	R ²	X	Melting point °C
1	C ₂ H ₅	H	CH ₃ CO	H	266
2	n.C ₄ H ₉	H	CH ₃ CO	H	272
3	n.C ₄ H ₉	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃ CO	H	102–103
4	iso-propyl	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃ CO	H	123
5	iso-propyl	CH ₃	CH ₃ CO	H	162–163
6	iso-propyl	iso-propyl	CH ₃ CO	H	100–101
7	iso-propyl	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ CO	H	113–114
8	iso-propyl	CH ₃	n.C ₃ H ₇ CO	H	100–101
9	iso-propyl	CH ₃	(CH ₃) ₂ .CH.CO	H	81–82
10	cyclohexyl	CH ₃	CH ₃ CO	H	176–177
11	cyclohexyl	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ CO	H	147–148
12	cyclohexyl	CH ₃	HOOC.CO	H	260
13	n.C ₄ H ₉	C ₂ H ₅	C ₂ H ₅ .CO	H	114–115

TABLE I (Continued)

Compound No.	R ¹	R ³	R ²	X	Melting point °C
14	<i>n</i> -hexyl	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃ .CO	H	98- 99
15	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉	CH ₃ .CO	H	77- 78
16	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ .CO	H	92- 93
17	cyclo-hexyl	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃ CO	H	191-192
18	cyclo-hexyl	CH ₃	CH ₃ CO	CH ₃	99
19	cyclo-hexyl	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃ CO	CH ₃	99
20	iso-propyl	CH ₃	CH ₃ CO	CH ₃	100-101
21	cyclohexyl	H	CH ₃ CO	CH ₃	92- 93
22	cyclohexyl	H	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉ .CO	CH ₃	71- 72
23	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉	C ₂ H ₅	<i>n</i> .C ₃ H ₇ .CO	H	66- 67
24	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉	C ₂ H ₅	<i>n</i> .C ₅ H ₁₁ .CO	H	49- 51
25	iso-C ₃ H ₇	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃ CO	CH ₃	Oil
26	iso-C ₃ H ₇	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ OCO	H	88- 89
27	iso-C ₃ H ₇	CH ₃	C ₆ H ₅ CO	H	124-125
28	cyclohexyl	CH ₃	<i>n</i> .C ₃ H ₇ .CO	H	159-160
29	cyclohexyl	CH ₃	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉ .CO	H	179-180
30	iso-C ₃ H ₇	C ₂ H ₅	C ₂ H ₅ .CO	H	88- 90
31	iso-C ₃ H ₇	C ₂ H ₅	<i>n</i> .C ₃ H ₇ .CO	H	84- 85
32	iso-C ₃ H ₇	<i>n</i> .C ₃ H ₇	<i>n</i> .C ₃ H ₇ .CO	H	54- 56
33	iso-C ₃ H ₇	<i>n</i> .C ₄ H ₉	CH ₃ CO	H	89- 90
34	iso-C ₃ H ₇	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉	<i>n</i> .C ₃ H ₇ .CO	H	Oil
35	cyclohexyl	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ OCO	H	151-152
36	iso-C ₃ H ₇	C ₂ H ₅	C ₂ H ₅ OCO	H	75- 77
37	iso-C ₃ H ₇	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ OCO.CO	CH ₃	86
38	cyclohexyl	<i>n</i> .C ₃ H ₇	CH ₃ CO	H	176

TABLE 2

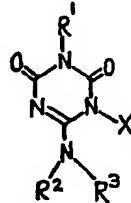


Compound No.	R ¹	R ²	Z	Melting Point °C
39	<i>iso propyl</i>	C ₂ H ₅	-CO-CO-	218-220
40	<i>iso propyl</i>	CH ₃	-CO-CO-	224-225
41	<i>iso propyl</i>	<i>iso propyl</i>	-CO-CO-	208-209
42	<i>iso propyl</i>	CH ₃	-(CH.OH) ₂ -	158-160
43	<i>iso propyl</i>	CH ₃	-CO-CH ₂ -	211-213
44	<i>cyclo hexyl</i>	CH ₃	-(CH.OH) ₂ -	269-270
45	<i>n-butyl</i>	C ₂ H ₅	-(CH.OH) ₂ -	164-165
46	C ₂ H ₅	H	-(CH ₂) ₃ -	268
47	<i>n-C₄H₉</i>	H	-(CH ₂) ₃ -	272-273
48	<i>cyclo hexyl</i>	H	-(CH ₂) ₃ -	280
49	<i>iso propyl</i>	C ₂ H ₅	-CH ₂ N(CH ₃) -CH ₂ -	173-175
50	<i>iso propyl</i>	C ₂ H ₅	-CH ₂ N(C ₄ H ₉ ,n).CH ₂ -	(liquid, n_D^{20} 1.5200)
51	<i>iso propyl</i>	CH ₃	-CH ₂ N(CH ₃).CH ₂ -	169-170
52	<i>iso propyl</i>	<i>iso propyl</i>	-CH ₂ N(CH ₃)CH ₂ -	161-152
53	<i>n-C₄H₉</i>	C ₂ H ₅	-CH ₂ N(CH ₃).CH ₂ -	107-108
54	<i>iso-C₃H₇</i>	CH ₃	-CH ₂ CH ₂ -	135-136
55	<i>cyclo hexyl</i>	CH ₃	-CH ₂ CH ₂ -	192-193
56	<i>cyclo hexyl</i>	CH ₃	-CH ₂ N(C ₆ H ₅).CH ₂ -	176
57	<i>iso-C₃H₇</i>	<i>n.C₃H₇</i>	-CH ₂ N(CH ₃).CH ₂ -	168-170

The nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of each of the compounds listed in Tables 1 and 2 was examined and found to be consistent with the structure given in the Tables.

In Table 2 above, Z (if unsymmetrical) is written anticlockwise, the left-hand valency bond being linked to the nitrogen atom which carries R².

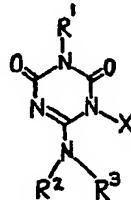
In a further aspect, the invention provides a process of inhibiting the growth of unwanted plants, which comprises applying to the plants, or to a plant growth medium, a phytotoxic amount of a triazinedione compound of the formula:—



wherein R¹, R², R³ and X are as previously defined. Preferred compounds for use in the herbicidal process of the invention include those in which R¹ is an alkyl radical of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, R² is a carboxylic acyl group, R³ is an aliphatic radical, and X is hydrogen or an aliphatic radical of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, for example methyl. Another group of preferred compounds are those in which R¹ is an alkyl radical of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, R² is an aliphatic radical of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and R³ together with X forms a divalent radical Z linking the nitrogen atom to which R³ is attached to the nitrogen atom in the triazine ring so as to form a second 5- or 6- membered heterocyclic ring.

The rate at which compounds are applied in accordance with the herbicidal process of the invention will depend upon a number of factors, for example the identity of the plants whose growth is to be inhibited, and the particular compound selected for application, but in general a rate of from 0.1 to 10 kilograms per hectare is suitable, while from 0.5 to 5 kilograms per hectare is preferred. The post-emergence activity of the compounds is often higher than their pre-emergence activity.

The compounds have been found to be generally less phytotoxic to maize than to many other plant species, and by application at a suitable rate, the compounds may be used selectively to control weeds in maize crops. Accordingly, in a further aspect, the invention provides a process of inhibiting the growth of weeds in crops of maize, which comprises applying to the crop area a triazinedione compound of the formula:—



wherein R¹, R², R³ and X are as hereinbefore defined, in an amount sufficient to inhibit the growth of weeds but insufficient substantially to damage the maize.

Preferred compounds for use in selectively controlling weeds in maize crops include those in which the groups R¹ is an alkyl group of 1 to 8 carbon atoms. Preferably R² is a carboxylic acyl group of 2 to 5 carbon atoms and the group R³ is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group; or alternatively, R² may be an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms and R³ may be the group Z as hereinbefore defined.

Certain compounds of the invention are active against plant fungal diseases at rates of application lower than those at which they cause substantial damage to plants. The invention therefore further provides a process of combatting plant fungal diseases by applying to plants, or to plant growth media, a fungicidal but substantially non-phytotoxic quantity of a compound according to the invention. Preferred compounds for this use are those in which R¹ is an aliphatic group of 2 to 6 carbon atoms. Particularly preferred compounds are those in which R¹ is a butyl group. Preferably, R² is an alkanoyl radical of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, and R³ is an alkyl group of 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

The compounds of the invention are particularly effective against powdery mildew infestations of cereal plants (for example barley), apples, and vines. The rate at which the compounds are applied when used as fungicides will depend upon factors such as the disease to be controlled, the compound chosen for use, and the tolerance of the host plants to the herbicidal action of the compound chosen for use, but a rate of between 0.5 and 5 kilograms per hectare, preferably between 0.1 and 2 kilograms per hectare will generally be suitable.

The fungicidal activity of the compounds of the invention is typically found to be systemic. That is to say, the chemicals do not combat fungal attack merely at the size at which they come into contact with the plants, but are taken up into the plant and transported to other parts of the plant where they can combat fungal attack. The fungicidal effect is generally highly specific. Thus, for example, compound No. 3 of Table I is active against powdery mildews of wheat and barley (*Erysiphe graminis*) and downy mildew and powdery mildew of vine, but is much less active against most other foliar fungal diseases. Certain compounds of the invention are also active against plant bacterial diseases.

The compounds used in the process of the invention are preferably applied to plants in the form of a composition in which the active ingredient is mixed with a diluent or carrier. Preferably the composition also comprises a surface-active agent to assist in spreading the composition over the surface of plants to which it is applied.

Compositions according to the invention may be solid or liquid, and include both dilute and concentrated compositions which require to be diluted before use. Preferably the compositions contain from 0.01% to 90% by weight of the triazinedione used as active ingredient. Dilute compositions ready for use preferably contain from 0.01% to 2% by weight of the active ingredient, while concentrated compositions may contain from 20% to 90% by weight of active ingredient, although from 20% to 70% by weight is usually preferred.

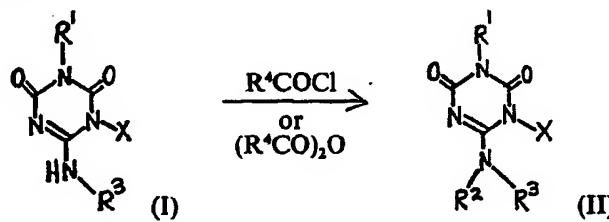
Solid compositions may be in the form of a powder, in which the active ingredient is mixed with a powdered solid diluent. Suitable solid diluents include for example, Fuller's earth, powdered kaolin, gypsum, chalk and kieselguhr. Such solid compositions may be applied as foliar dusts, or (for fungicidal purposes) as seed dressings.

Liquid compositions may comprise a solution or dispersion of an active ingredient in water optionally containing a surface-active agent, or may comprise a solution or dispersion of an active ingredient in an organic diluent, which may optionally contain a surface-active agent. Another form of liquid compositions comprises a solution of an active ingredient in a water-immiscible organic solvent which is dispersed as droplets in water.

Examples of surface-active agents which may be used in the compositions of the invention include the products of condensation of ethylene oxide with the following substances: alkyl substituted phenols such as octyl phenol and nonylphenol; sorbitan monolaurate; oleyl alcohol; and propylene oxide polymer. A particular example of such a condensation product is the substance sold under the name of "Lissapol" ("Lissapol" is a Trade Mark). Other satisfactory surface-active agents include calcium dodecylbenzene-sulphonate, and calcium, sodium and ammonium lignosulphonates. The amount of surface-active agent included in the compositions of the invention may vary, as will be evident to those skilled in the art but from 0.1 part to 0.5 part by weight per part of triazine dione compound is often suitable.

A preferred form of concentrated composition comprises the active ingredient which has been finely divided and which has been dispersed in water in the presence of a surface-active agent and a suspending agent. Preferred suspending agents are those which impart thixotropic properties to, and increase the viscosity of the concentrate. Examples of preferred suspending agents include hydrated colloidal mineral silicates, such as montmorillonite, beidellite, hectorite and saucorite. Bentonite is especially preferred. Other suspending agents include cellulose derivatives and polyvinyl alcohol.

Compounds according to the invention may be prepared in a variety of ways. Compounds in which R² is a carboxylic acyl group and R³ is a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical may be prepared, for example, by reacting a triazinedione compound in which R² is a hydrogen atom with a carboxylic acylating agent, for example a carboxylic acid chloride or carboxylic acid anhydride, as in the following scheme:

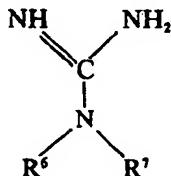


In the above scheme, R³ and X each stand for a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical, and R¹ and R⁴ are as previously defined.

Compounds of formula (I) are in general already known, having been described for example in Belgian Patent No. 799,932 and Belgian Patent No. 806,964. Methods for production of (I) are therefore already known. The methods (A and B) used for preparing the aminotriazine diones (I) used as intermediates for preparing the compounds of the present invention are described below.

METHOD A.

In this method, a guanidine derivative of formula



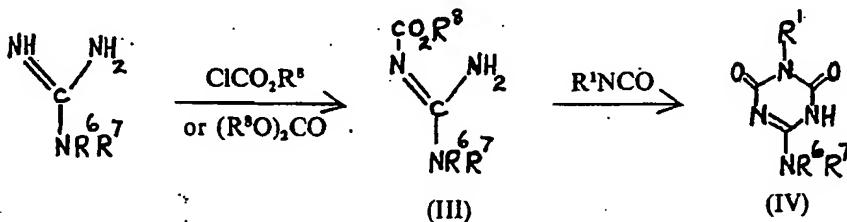
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wherein R⁶ and R⁷ may each be a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical, is reacted with a chloroformic ester ClCO₂R⁸, wherein R⁸ is a hydrocarbyl group, preferably an alkyl group of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, for example methyl or ethyl, or preferably with a dialkylcarbonate (R⁸O)₂CO to give an intermediate (III). This is then further reacted with an isocyanate R¹NCO wherein R¹ has any of the meanings hereinbefore assigned to it. The reaction product so obtained cyclises to a triazinedione compound, as shown in the scheme below:—



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The conversion of (III) to (IV) may be carried out in the presence of a catalytic amount of a tertiary amine, preferably a trialkylamine in which each of the three alkyl groups contains 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

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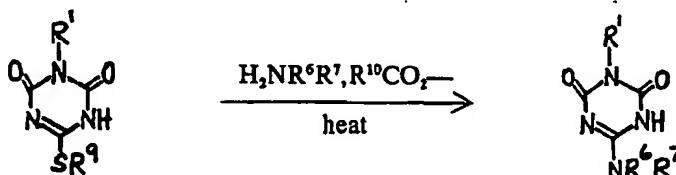
The reaction of the chloroformic ester ClCO₂R⁸ with the guanidine may be carried out in water. Alternatively the preparation of the ethoxycarbonyl guanidine, for example may be carried out by reacting diethylcarbonate with the free guanidine base in ethanol solution. In this method the free guanidine is preferably prepared in ethanol by adding 1 molar proportion of sodium ethoxide to a guanidine salt in ethanol.

METHOD B.

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In this method, aminotriazine diones are prepared by heating an S-substituted mercapto triazine dione (V) with a carboxylic acid addition salt of an amine R⁶R⁷NH as shown in the scheme below:—



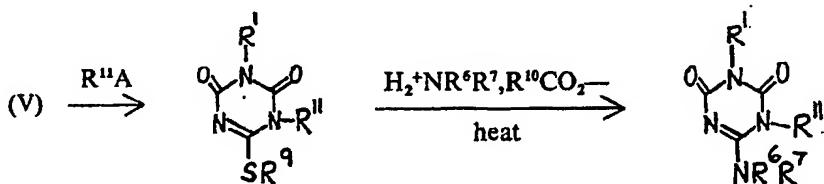
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In the above scheme, the symbols R¹, R⁶, R⁷ and R¹⁰, have the values previously assigned to them, and R⁹ represents an alkyl radical, preferably of 1 to 4 carbon atoms and R¹⁰ represents an alkyl group, preferably of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

The S-substituted mercapto compounds are known compounds.

The ring NH group in the 4-alkylthio compounds (V) may readily be alkylated by treatment with an alkylating agent such as for example an alkyl halide or a dialkyl sulphate, in the presence of a base. Compounds according to the invention wherein the group X is an aliphatic radical may therefore be prepared by method B, by alkylating a compound of formula (V) above with the appropriate alkylating agent, then heating the alkylated compound with an amine salt to convert it to the corresponding 4-amino derivative, and finally acylating the latter to obtain the compounds of the invention. The scheme is illustrated by the following scheme:—



In the above scheme R¹, R⁶, R⁷, R⁹, and R¹⁰ each have the meanings previously assigned to them and R¹¹A is an alkylating agent in which R¹¹ is an alkyl group of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

Examples of alkylating agents include alkyl halides and dialkyl sulphates. Compounds according to the invention wherein the group R² is —CO.CO₂H, that is to say, oxalamides may be prepared by hydrolysis of compounds in which Z is —CO.CO— (the preparation of these compounds is described below). Compounds in which the group R² is —CO.OR⁸ may be prepared by acylation of the appropriate aminotriazineedione with a chloroformic ester Cl.CO.OR⁸.

Compounds in which Z is —CO.CO— tend to hydrolyse in water to form compounds in which X is H and R² is —CO.CO₂H. The rate of hydrolysis varies from one compound to another.

Compounds in which Z is —CO.CH₂— are made by condensation of the corresponding triazine diones in which R³ is H with chloracetic anhydride; compounds in which Z is —CH(OH).CH(OH)— by condensation of the corresponding triazine dione in which R³ is H with glyoxal. Compounds in which Z is —CH₂NR⁴CH₂— (R⁴ being hydrogen or an aliphatic alicyclic or aromatic hydrocarbon radical of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, preferably containing not more than six carbon atoms) are prepared by reaction of the corresponding triazine dione in which R³ is H with formaldehyde and a primary amine of formula R⁴NH₂. Compounds in which Z is (—CH₂)ₙ— (n=2 or 3) may be prepared by Method A, using the appropriate cyclic guanidine as in Example 7.

EXAMPLE 1.

This Example illustrates the preparation of compounds according to the invention and as listed in Table I, with the exception of compound no. 12.

Compound no. 3 of Table I was prepared by heating 1-n-butyl-4-ethylamino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione (formula I, R¹=C₄H₉, R³=C₂H₅, X=H) (2.12 g.) and acetic anhydride under reflux for 2 hours. Removal of the excess of acetic anhydride under reduced pressure followed by crystallisation of the residue from chloroform-hexane gave the product as colourless needles, m.p. 102—103°C.

The remaining compounds of Table 2, except no. 12 were prepared by similar methods, starting from the appropriate 4-amino-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione derivative and the appropriate acid anhydride or acid chloride.

The 4-amino-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione derivatives were prepared by Methods A and B. By way of an example of Method A, the preparation of 4-dimethylamino-1-ethyl-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione (formula IV, R¹=C₂H₅, R⁶=R⁷=CH₃) is described.

(a) Preparation of carbamate intermediate.

N,N-dimethylguanidine hydrochloride (123.5 g; 1M) was added to a solution of potassium hydroxide (112.2 g; 2M) in water (ca. 300 ml.). The solution was stirred and kept at —10°C to —5°C by cooling while ethyl chloroformate (108.5 g; 1M) was added over a period of 45 minutes. After addition was complete, the solution was allowed to warm to room temperature, the water was evaporated in a vacuum, and the residue was extracted with boiling chloroform (300 ml.). The extracts were cooled, dried, and evaporated to yield a yellow oily solid. Recrystallisation from a 2:1 (by volume) mixture of toluene and petroleum (b.p. 40—60°C)

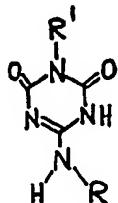
gave the white crystalline carbamate derivative (formula III, $R^6=C_2H_5$, $R^6=R^7=CH_3$) having a melting point of 73—76°C.

(b) Preparation of triazinedione.

The carbamate derivative so obtained was dissolved in dry toluene (ca. 100 ml. per 15 g. of carbamate) and heated under reflux with ethyl isocyanate (1 molar proportion) and a little dry triethylamine as catalyst for 16 hours. The toluene was then removed in a vacuum and the residue recrystallised from ethanol, giving the triazine dione as a white fibrous solid of melting point 236—238°C.

Using the appropriate guanidine starting material and aliphatic isocyanate the following 4-aminotriazine-diones were prepared by the procedure of Method A.

TABLE 3



R^1	R	Melting Point °C
C_4H_9	C_2H_5	244
iso C_3H_7	C_2H_5	228
iso C_3H_7	CH_3	280—282
iso C_3H_7	iso C_3H_7	235—237
n hexyl	C_2H_5	218—220
n C_4H_9	n C_4H_9	247—248
n C_4H_9	CH_3	241—242
C_2H_5	H	
C_4H_9	H	

Further 4-aminotriazinediones were prepared by Method B, that is to say by reaction of an appropriately 1-substituted 4-methylthio-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione with the carboxylic acid salt of the appropriate amine. As an example of Method B, the following is a description of the preparation of 1-cyclohexyl-4-methyl-amino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione.

A mixture of 1-cyclohexyl-4-methylthio-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione (24.1 g.) and methyl-ammonium acetate (45.5 g.) was heated to 150°C for 3 hours. After allowing the mixture to cool, water (200 ml.) was added and the product, 1-cyclohexyl-4-methylamino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione separated. It was washed with water, dried, and recrystallised from aqueous dimethylformamide to give colourless needles, (21.0 g, 95%) m.p. 299—300°C (with decomposition). The compounds in the following table were prepared in the same way.

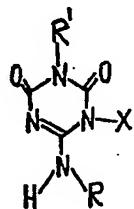
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TABLE 4



R ¹	R	X	Melting Point °C
cyclohexyl	CH ₃	H	299–300
cyclohexyl	C ₂ H ₅	H	257–259
cyclohexyl	CH ₃	CH ₃	262
cyclohexyl	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃	214
iso C ₃ H ₇	CH ₃	CH ₃	224
cyclohexyl	H	CH ₃	287–288
iso C ₃ H ₇	C ₂ H ₅	CH ₃	193
iso C ₃ H ₇	n C ₃ H ₇	H	107–108
iso C ₃ H ₇	n C ₄ H ₉	H	98–99
cyclohexyl	n C ₃ H ₇	H	237–238

EXAMPLE . 2.

This Example illustrates the preparation of compound no. 43 of Table 2. A mixture of 1-isopropyl-4-methylamino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione (1.84 g.) and chloroacetic anhydride (7.5 g.) was heated at 130°C for 2–5 hours. Trituration of the residue with hexane gave a solid which was separated and washed with hexane. Crystallisation of the solid from dichloromethane/ether gave the product as colourless needles (1.48 g.) m.p. 211–213°C.

EXAMPLE 3.

This Example illustrates the preparation of compound no. 12 of Table 1.
 A mixture of 1-cyclohexyl-4-methylamino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione (2.84 g.) and oxalyl chloride (4.0 ml.) in anhydrous toluene (40 ml.) was heated under reflux for 3 hours. The resulting mixture was shaken with water. Compound no. 12 was recovered and had a melting point of 260°C after recrystallisation.

EXAMPLE 4.

This Example illustrates the preparation of compound no. 40 of Table 2.
 A mixture of 1-isopropyl-4-methylamino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione (2.76 g.) and oxalyl chloride (3.9 ml.) in anhydrous toluene (40 ml.) was heated under reflux for 3 hours. Removal of the toluene under reduced pressure and crystallisation of the residue from acetone/light petroleum gave the product (2.7 g.) as colourless crystals, m.p. 224–225°C. Using the appropriate 4-amino triazine derivative and oxalyl chloride, the following compounds of Table 2 were prepared by the same method: 39 and 41.

EXAMPLE 5.

25 This Example illustrates the preparation of Compound no. 45 of Table 2.
A mixture of 1-*n*-butyl-4-ethylamino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazin-2,6-dione (2.12 g.) and glyoxal hydrate (0.84 g.) in ethanol (80 ml.) was heated under reflux for 3 hours. Following the removal of the ethanol under reduced pressure, the residual

gum was taken up in ether and filtered to remove insoluble material. Evaporation of the ether and crystallisation of the residue from water gave the product (1.2 g.) as colourless crystals, m.p. 164—166°C.

Compounds 42 and 44 of Table 2 were so prepared.

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EXAMPLE 6.

This Example illustrates the preparation of Compound no. 53 of Table 2. To a solution of 1-n-butyl-4-ethylamino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazin-2,6-dione (2.12 g.) in boiling ethanol (70 ml.) was added an aqueous solution of formaldehyde (1.5 ml; 40% w/v), and following the addition the mixture was allowed to cool for 30 minutes. Methylamine (1.24 ml; 25% w/v aqueous) was then added and the mixture heated under reflux for a further 1 hour. Following the removal of solvent, the residue was taken up into chloroform which was washed with aqueous sodium hydroxide (50 ml; 5 grams per 100 ml.). The chloroform layer was dried (NaSO_4) and evaporated and the residue crystallised from methylene chloride-n-hexane-ether at —60°C to give the product (1.3 g.) as colourless crystals, m.p. 107—108°C.

By the same technique compounds 50, 51, 52 and 57 of Table 2 were prepared.

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This Example illustrates the preparation of Compound no. 46 of Table 2.

A mixture of ethyl hexahydropyrimidin-2-ylidene-carbamate (1.71 g.) (prepared as described by Kay *et al.*, J.C.S. Perkin I, 2644 (1973)) and ethyl isocyanate (0.71 g.) in anhydrous toluene (15 ml.) was heated under reflux for 16 hours. Removal of the toluene under reduced pressure and crystallisation of the residue from water gave the product (1.1 g.) as colourless crystals, m.p. 268°C.

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Compounds 47 and 48 of Table 2 were prepared by the same technique, using the appropriate starting materials.

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This Example illustrates the preparation of Compound no. 54 of Table 2. 1 - Isopropyl - 4-(N-2-hydroxyethyl-N-methyl)amino-tetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione (1.5 g.), suspended in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (20 ml.), was treated with thionyl chloride (5 ml.). Following the mildly exothermic reaction the solution was allowed to cool to room temperature and then evaporated. The residual solid was taken up in water (50 ml.) which was then brought to pH 7 by addition of solid sodium bicarbonate and extracted with chloroform (4 x 20 ml.). Evaporation of the extracts followed by crystallisation of the residue from carbon tetrachloride gave the product (1.0 g.) having a melting point of 135—136°C.

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The starting material for this preparation was obtained by treating the known compound 1-isopropyl-4-methylthiotetrahydro-1,3,5-triazine-2,6-dione with the acetate salt of N-methyl ethanolamine according to Method B, and was used directly without further purification for the preparation of compound 54. Compound 55 was prepared in a similar way.

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EXAMPLE 9.

This Example illustrates the herbicidal properties of compounds used in the process of the invention. Each compound (0.12 g.) was formulated for test by mixing it with 5 ml. of an emulsion prepared by diluting 100 ml. of a solution containing 21.8 grams per litre of Span 80 and 78.2 grams per litre of Tween 20 in methyl cyclohexanone to 500 ml. with water. "Span" 80 is a Trade Mark for a surface-active agent comprising sorbitan monolaurate. Tween 20 is a Trade Mark for a surface active agent comprising a condensate of 20 molar proportions of ethylene oxide with 1 molar proportion of sorbitan monolaurate. The mixture of the compound and the emulsion was shaken with glass beads and diluted to 12 ml. with water.

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The spray composition so prepared was sprayed on to young pot plants (post-emergence test) of the species named in Table 5 below, at a rate equivalent to 1000 litres per hectare (10 kilograms of triazine compound per hectare). Damage to plants was assessed 14 days after spraying by comparison with untreated plants, on a scale of 0 to 3 where 0 is no effect and 3 represents 75 to 100% kill. In a test for pre-emergence activity, seeds of the test species were placed on the surface of fibre trays of soil and were sprayed with the compositions at the rate of 1000 litres per hectare. The seeds were then covered with further soil. Fourteen days after spraying, the seedlings in the sprayed fibre trays were compared with those in unsprayed control trays, the damage being expressed on the same scale of 0 to 3.

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The results are given in Table 5 below. It should be noted that the kill of plants in these tests is not necessarily complete after 14 days. Plants appearing healthy at this time may die subsequently, particularly in the pre-emergence test.

TABLE 5

Compound No.	Pre-emergence						Post-emergence					
	Le	To	Cl	Wh	Dg	Pr	Le	To	Cl	Wh	Dg	Pr
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	2	3	2
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	0
21	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	2	0	1	0
22	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	2	1	1	0
23	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
24	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0
34	0	0	0	0	0	2	-	0	0	1	0	0
36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	2	0
37	1	1	1	0	2	-	3	3	3	1	3	2
41	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-	3	0	2	1
56	2	1	2	0	2	0	3	3	-	1	2	0

The names of the test plants are as follows:-

Le-Lettuce

To-Tomato

Cl-Clover

Wh-Wheat

Dg-*Digitaria sanguinalis*

Pr-Perennial rye grass

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EXAMPLE 10.

This Example further illustrates the herbicidal properties of compounds according to the invention. For this test, each compound was formulated by mixing it with 5 ml. of an emulsion prepared by diluting 160 ml. of a solution containing 21.8 g. per litre of Span 80 and 78.2 g. per litre of Tween 20 in methylcyclohexanone to 500 ml. with water. The 5 ml. of emulsion containing the test compound was then diluted to 40 ml. with water and sprayed on to the range of test species in Table 6 as described for Example 9. Damage to the test plants was assessed on a scale of 0 to 5 where 0 is no effect and 5 is complete kill.

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The names of the test plants are as follows:-

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Sb-Sugar beet

Po-*Portulaca oleracea*

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Rp-Rape

Mz-Maize

Ct-Cotton

Br-Barley

P-Pea

Rc-Rice

Sn-*Senecio vulgaris*

Ot-Oat

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Ip-*Ipomoea purpurea*

Dg-*Digitaria sanguinalis*

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Am-*Amaranthus retroflexus*

EI-*Eleusine indica*

Pa-*Polygonum aviculare*

Pn-*Poa annua*

Ca-*Chenopodium album*

TABLE 6

Compound No.	Pre or Post Emergence	Rate kg/hectare	Test Plants															
			Sb	Rp	Ct	P	Sn	Ip	Am	Pa	Ca	Po	Mz	Br	Rc	Ot	Dg	El
3	Pre	5	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Post	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Pre	5	4	2	0	2	4	3	3	3	3	1	3	4	3	5	5	3
	Post	5	4	5	4	4	5	5	4	3	5	5	1	3	4	5	5	5
5	Pre	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	4	1
	Post	1	1	3	3	2	1	4	3	1	5	4	0	0	0	4	4	4
5	Pre	5	2	1	0	0	5	2	4	3	1	4	1	1	0	1	2	1
	Post	5	5	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	4	4	4	5	5
7	Pre	1	4	5	4	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	2	2	1	5	5
	Post	5	2	1	0	0	5	0	2	4	1	3	0	0	0	1	2	1
8	Pre	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	4	4	4	5	5
	Post	1	5	5	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	0	3	3	1	5	5
9	Pre	5	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
	Post	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	1	4	4	4	5	5
10	Pre	5	3	1	0	0	5	3	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	3
	Post	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	3	3	4	5	5
11	Pre	5	4	5	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	3	4	3	4	5
	Post	5	5	4	5	-	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	4	5	5
12	Pre	5	4	0	0	3	4	0	0	4	2	2	0	2	1	-	0	1
	Post	5	4	5	-	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	1	0	2	1	5	4
16	Pre	5	4	0	0	0	1	2	3	3	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
	Post	5	5	4	3	1	5	5	4	5	5	5	0	2	2	3	2	5

TABLE 6 (Continued)

Compound No.	Pre or Post Emergence	Rate kg/hectare	Test Plants															
			Sb	Rp	Ct	P	Sn	Ip	Am	Pa	Ca	Po	Mz	Br	Rc	Ot	Dg	El
17	Pre	5	5	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	1	0	2	3	1	4	1	3
	Post	5	3	0	0	2	4	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
18	Pre	5	4	5	4	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	4	0	5	5	4
	Post	5	3	5	5	3	5	4	5	4	5	5	1	2	2	2	3	4
19	Pre	5	5	4	1	1	4	4	4	3	3	3	0	1	0	3	2	1
	Post	5	3	5	4	3	4	4	3	4	5	5	0	1	0	0	0	3
20	Pre	5	5	4	3	3	5	4	5	5	5	5	0	1	0	4	3	2
	Post	5	3	4	5	3	5	4	4	4	5	5	0	1	1	1	2	3
26	Pre	5	5	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	4	5	5	5
	Post	5	-	4	4	3	4	4	5	4	5	5	2	2	2	3	5	5
27	Pre	5	5	4	3	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	0	1	0	4	3	2
	Post	5	-	5	4	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	1	2	1	2	4	3
28	Pre	5	5	3	4	4	5	1	0	5	4	3	0	4	3	5	4	5
	Post	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	-	5	5	5	0	0	1	1	3	2
29	Pre	5	5	0	4	3	2	0	0	4	0	1	0	3	3	5	4	0
	Post	5	5	4	0	3	5	2	-	-	5	5	0	0	1	0	3	0
30	Pre	5	5	3	0	1	1	2	0	4	4	5	2	1	0	4	4	5
	Post	5	4	-	2	5	5	4	5	5	5	2	1	4	4	5	5	5
31	Pre	5	5	4	3	2	3	4	5	3	5	5	1	1	0	4	2	3
	Post	5	2	4	2	1	4	4	4	2	4	3	0	1	2	2	0	1
35	Pre	5	5	3	0	1	5	2	4	5	0	0	0	0	1	3	3	3
	Post	5	5	4	3	2	5	4	0	4	5	0	3	4	3	5	5	5
39	Pre	5	1	2	0	0	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	3	2	1
	Post	5	4	5	2	0	4	5	4	2	5	5	0	0	0	4	5	3
40	Post	5	3	5	4	0	5	5	3	5	5	0	0	0	0	1	2	3
	Post	1	0	5	3	0	4	5	5	3	4	4	0	0	0	0	1	3
42	Pre	5	0	0	1	0	5	5	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	2	3	4
	Post	5	4	5	0	1	5	5	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

TABLE 6 (Continued)

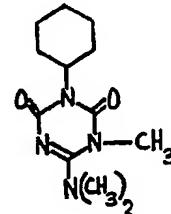
Compound No.	Pre or Post Emergence	Rate kg/hectare	Test Plants												Dg	El	Pn	
			Sb	Rp	Ct	P	Sn	Ip	Am	Pa	Ca	Po	Mz	Br	Rc	Ot		
43	Post	5	3	4	2	0	4	5	4	4	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	1
	Post	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
44	Post	5	5	5	0	5	5	5	5	5	4	1	0	2	3	4	4	
	Post	1	5	5	1	5	5	5	5	5	3	1	0	0	1	4	4	
45	Post	5	4	5	1	1	3	5	3	4	5	4	0	1	0	2	3	1
	Pre	5	1	2	0	1	2	1	3	3	2	0	0	0	1	3	1	1
49	Post	5	4	5	5	3	5	5	4	5	5	0	0	0	1	5	5	4
	Pre	5	2	2	0	0	2	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	1	5	5	4
50	Post	5	4	5	3	1	3	5	5	3	5	5	0	1	0	2	3	1
	Pre	5	2	2	0	0	2	1	2	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	4
51	Post	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	1	0	0	1	3	1	1
	Pre	5	5	5	0	0	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	1	0	1	4	3
52	Post	5	3	4	0	0	4	5	5	4	5	2	0	0	0	0	3	3
	Post	1	0	3	0	0	1	4	3	3	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
53	Post	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Pre	5	3	3	2	1	4	3	1	3	5	4	0	0	1	0	2	1
54	Post	5	4	4	0	0	4	3	0	2	4	4	0	0	0	1	1	2
	Pre	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	3	5	5	0	0	2	2	3	3
55	Post	5	5	2	2	5	4	4	3	4	4	1	3	4	4	4	4	5
	Pre	5	2	4	2	2	5	4	4	3	4	4	0	1	2	3	3	4

A dash (-) in the above table means that no test was carried out.

EXAMPLE 11.

This Example illustrates the selective herbicidal activity of compounds according to the invention. The compounds were tested by the methods previously described in Example 10. For comparison, the results of tests carried out with a related compound previously proposed for use as a herbicide in Belgian Patent No. 799,932 are included. The comparison compound was the compound of the following formula:—

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10 This compound is referred to as compound A in the table of results below. In this table, the results quoted are those for post-emergence tests. Damage to plants is expressed on a scale of 0 to 9 where 0 is no effect and 9 is complete kill. It will be seen that the compounds of the invention are relatively non-toxic towards maize at rates which cause severe damage to the other plant species.

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TABLE 7

Compound No.	Rate/ Kg/Ha	Test Plants											
		Mz	Rc	Sg	Sy	Gn	Ct	Ei	Ec	St	Dg	Po	Am
A	0.5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
4	2	0	7	7	8	9	9	9	8	9	9	9	9
5	2	0	7	7	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
7	2	0	5	7	9	9	9	9	8	9	9	9	9
8	2	1	6	6	9	7	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
9	2	2	0	5	9	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	1	0	6	6	8	5	8	7	7	5	7	9	9
11	1	0	6	7	9	4	8	7	9	7	7	9	9
12	2	0	1	1	0	3	3	5	6	6	5	9	9
28	2	1	3	3	9	8	6	2	8	2	1	9	9
29	2	0	5	1	9	9	6	0	5	1	0	9	6
42	2	0	2	5	9	8	9	8	4	9	9	9	9
43	2	2	6	8	9	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

The names of the test plants are as follows:—

Mz—Maize
Rc—Rice
Sg—Sorghum
Sy—Soya Bean
Gn—Groundnut
Ct—Cotton

Ei—*Eleusine indica*
Ec—*Echinochloa crus-galli*
St—*Setaria viridis*
Dg—*Digitaria sanguinalis*
Po—*Portulaca oleracea*
Am—*Amaranthus retroflexus*

EXAMPLE 12.

This Example illustrates the fungicidal properties of compounds according to the invention. The compounds were tested against a wide variety of foliar fungal diseases of plants. In the test, a composition comprising an aqueous solution or suspension of the test compound was sprayed on to the foliage of uninfected plants; the soil in which the plants were growing was also drenched with the composition. The compositions used for spraying and drenching contained 100 parts per million (ppm.) of the test compound except where otherwise stated in the table of results below. After spraying and drenching, the plants were then exposed to infection with the disease it was desired to control, along with control plants not treated with the compound. After a period of days, depending upon the particular disease, the extent of the disease was visually assessed, as a percentage of the disease established upon the control plants which had not been treated with the compound under test, according to the grading scheme below:

Grading	Amount of disease as a percentage of disease on control plants	
0	61 to 100	
1	26 to 60	
2	6 to 25	
3	0 to 5	
4	0	

The letter P means that the compound is phytotoxic.
In Table 8 below the name of the disease is given in the first column, and in the second column is given the time which elapsed between exposing the plants to infection and assessing the amount of disease. Table 9 gives the test results.

TABLE 8

Disease and Plant	Time Interval (days)	Disease Code Letter (Table 9)
<i>Phytophthora infestans</i> (tomato)	3	A
<i>Plasmopara viticola</i> (vine)	7	B
<i>Uncinula necator</i> (vine)	10	C
<i>Piricularia oryzae</i> (rice)	7	D
<i>Podosphaera leucotricha</i> (apple)	10	E
<i>Puccinia recondita</i> (wheat)	10	F

TABLE 9

Compound No.	A	B	C	D	E	F
3	0-1	0	4	0	4	0
4	0	2-3	4,P	0	3,P	0,P
5	P	3,P	3,P	0,P	P	2
8	P	-	-	0	P	3
9	P	-	-	0	P	3
10	P	P	P	0	P	4
11	P	P	P	1	P	4
12	P	P	P	3,P	3,P	4
13	0,P	2-3P	4	0	4	0
14	0	0-1	2-3	2-3	3	0
15	0	0	4	2	4	0
16	P	3	4	0,P	4	0
18	P	P	3-4	P	P	3
19*	P	P	2-3	P	P	2
20*	P	4,P	2-3	P	P	2
23*	3	0-1	3-4	3	4	0
24*	3	0-1	4	0	4	0
26*	P	3-4	-	P	P	4
27*	P	4,P	-	4	P	4
31*	1	3	-	0	0	2
32	0-2	0	-	P	3,4	0
36	P	3	-	P	4	3
37*	P	3	-	P	4	3
39	2	0	3-4	0	0	0
42	0,P	P	4,P	P	0	0,P
44	P	P	P	0	P	4
45*	0	-	-	0	4	0
46	1	2	0	-	-	0
48	3	0	0-3	0	0	0
49	P	0-3	4,P	0	0	0
52	P	0-2	2	0	0	0

TABLE 9 (Continued)

Compound No.	A	B	C	D	E	F
53	0	0	4	0	4	0
54*	P	4	-	P	P	3
55*	P	4	-	P	4	4
56	P	4	-	0	2,P	3

Compounds marked with an asterisk * were tested at 200 parts per million.

EXAMPLE 13.

This Example illustrates the fungicidal activity of certain compounds of the invention at lower rates of application on powdery mildew of barley in comparison with a commercial standard.

The technique used was that of Example 14 but separate tests were carried out for protectant (PF), eradicant (EF) and translocated (TF) fungicidal activity. In the protectant tests, the plants were sprayed 1-2 days before inoculation with the disease; in the eradicant test, the plants were inoculated 1-2 days before spraying; in the translocated activity test, the soil was drenched 1-2 days before inoculation. Assessment was carried out as in Example 14 after the periods indicated in the Example, and the results are indicated by the same code in Table 10.

TABLE 10

Test Compound	(Rate of Application ppm.)											
	50			25			10			5		
	PF	EF	TF	PF	EF	TF	PF	EF	TF	PF	EF	TF
13		3-4	0-2		2-4		0		0-3	0-1		
53		4	1-2		4		0		3-4	0		
Ethirimol	3-4	3-4	3	3-4	1-2		3			2		

EXAMPLE 14.

This Example illustrates the activity of some of the compounds of our invention against plant bacterial diseases. Compounds from Tables 1 and 2 were tested against *Pseudomonas tomato* and *Xanthomonas oryzae*. Results are given in Table 11 below.

Test procedure for *Pseudomonas tomato*.

Tomato seedlings grown in 2 inch pots were treated with a root drench (10 ml.) containing 200 ppm. of the chemical compounds under test. Twenty-four hours later the seedlings were inoculated with *Pseudomonas tomato* by applying a suspension of cells of this bacterium to wounds made in the seedlings.

After three weeks the condition of the tomato seedlings was assessed on a 0-4 scale; where 0 is no control, 1 is slight control, 2 is fair control, 3 is good control and 4 is complete control.

Test procedure for *Xanthomonas oryzae* (bacterial blight of rice).

Rice seedlings at the three leaf stage were root drenched (10 ml.) and sprayed to run-off with the chemical compound under test at a rate of 200 ppm. Twenty-four hours later, the plants were inoculated by wounding with forceps dipped in a suspension of *Xanthomonas oryzae* spores. After fourteen days at 100% relative humidity the seedlings were assessed for disease on the 0-4 scale described above.

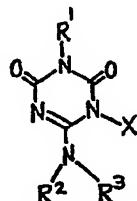
TABLE 11

Compound No. (of Tables 1-2)	Disease	
	Xanthomonas oryzae	Pseudomonas tomato
1	2	
2	1-2	
39	2	3
49		3
50		3
52	2-3	0-1

The compounds in the above table tended to cause some damage to the test plants, although this was less marked with compound 52.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. Triazinedione compounds of the formula:—



and salts thereof, wherein R¹ is an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical and either (a) R² is a carboxylic acyl radical and R³ is a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical, or (b) R² is a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical and R³, together with the group X, forms a divalent radical Z linking the nitrogen atom to which R³ is attached to the nitrogen atom in the triazine ring, so as to form a second fused 5- and 6- membered heterocyclic ring; and X is a hydrogen atom or an aliphatic radical, or together with R³ forms the divalent group Z.

2. Compounds as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ is an aliphatic radical of from 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

3. Compounds as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R¹ is an alkyl radical of from 1 to 8 carbon atoms.

4. Compounds as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the carbon atom of R¹ which is attached to the nitrogen atom is a secondary or tertiary carbon atom.

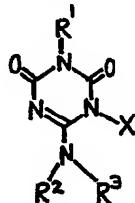
5. Compounds as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein R² is an alkanoyl radical of from 2 to 8 carbon atoms.

6. Compounds as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein R³ is an aliphatic radical of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

7. Compounds as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the group X is an alkyl radical of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

8. A salt of a compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein X is hydrogen, which is an alkali metal salt, an alkaline earth metal salt, an ammonium salt, or an amine salt.

9. A process of inhibiting the growth of unwanted plants, which comprises applying to the plants, or to a plant growth medium, a phytotoxic amount of a triazine dione compound of the formula:—



wherein R¹, R², R³ and X are defined as in claim 1.